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LB 138, 626

an amendment to this by Senator Wickersham that will clarify the language. So, this bill meshes the underlying LB 626 with LB 138.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Wickersham would move to amend Senator Wesely's amendment (See AM2253 on page 2313 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Wickersham, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President. I'll be brief. This is largely technical and coordinating, it's simply something that we didn't get done in the main amendment, but it needs to be cleaned up. We're simply striking a provision that says that the board will elect a chairperson, that's an inappropriate reference. The chairperson is actually the Director of Licensure, I'm sorry, I can't remember the name of that...the...what used to be Health and Human Services, isn't anymore, Director of Licensure. They will elect a vice chair, and that's provided for. There's one reference that was a director, it has to be plural, "directors", and then the most substantive provision is one that would address an issue that Senator Vrtiska was alluding to earlier, and that is the need to have physician medical directors for EMS services. This provision says that, if you're a trauma center, you will provide an on-line medical controller, available to the out-of-hospital emergency medical services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There's another provision in the amendment that says that that on-line medical controller can be the physician medical director for a unit. So you'd actually have the hospital providing the physician medical director for your emergency service, and they'd be required to have that physician on staff 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as a condition of this bill. So that would, at least by the year 2002, solve the problem that Senator Vrtiska was alluding to on (LB) 138, and I don't...frankly, I don't think it's going to be a problem anyway, but it gets fixed even further here, Senator.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Wehrbein, did you wish to discuss the amendment?